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AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Paragraphs [002], [0060], [0061], and [0063] are amended as follows:

[0026] Figs. 2(a) and 2(d)(b) are longitudinal sectional views of a principal portion according to the invention, and Figs. 2(c) and (d) are longitudinal sectional views of a principal portion of a conventional device;

[0060] When the inner ring 40 and the outer ring 37 are connected together by the engaging/disengaging members 34 in the manner described above, since the inner ring 40 and the outer ring 37 are subject to centering. In other words, before the inner ring 40 and the outer ring 37 are connected, the inner ring 40 may be slightly off-center with respect to the outer ring 37. Since the engaging/disengaging members 34 are provided in an odd number, nine in this embodiment, three engaging/disengaging members 34 (shown by the triangle) come in to abutment with both rings in the initial stage of the connection, as shown in Fig. 2(b), followed by successive abutment of the other engaging/disengaging members 34. In actuality, during this initial stage of the connection, when the inner ring 40 and the outer ring 37 are offset with respect to each other, one of the three engaging/disengaging members 34 (represented by one point of the triangle) comes into abutment with both rings. Abutment by this one engaging/disengaging member 34 then pushes the inner ring 40 away from the outer ring 37 toward a second and then a third of the engaging/disengaging members 34 (represented by the other two points of the triangle). Once each of these three

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engaging/disengaging members 34 come into abutment with both rings, centering is accomplished.

[0061] Therefore, the inner ring 40 and the outer ring 37 are contacted together at three points and are thus subjected to centering, the inner ring 40 and the outer ring 37 become centered with respect to each other. As can be seen in Fig. 2(b), during the initial stage of connection described above, centering of the inner ring with respect to the outer ring is accomplished when only three of the engagement/disengagement members 34 (shown by points of the triangle) come into abutment with both rings.

[0063] In contrast therewith, if the engaging/disengaging members 34 are provided in an even number, as shown in Figs. 2(c) and (d), the inner and outer rings 40, 37 are contacted together in succession at two positions in the initial stage of the connection as shown by the engaging/disengaging member 34 located at opposite points of the square in Fig. 2(d), followed by successive contact with the engaging/disengaging members 34 at the third and the fourth points of the square in Fig. 2(d). Thus, as compared to a device with an odd number of engaging/disengaging members, centering of both rings of a conventional device cannot be done immediately and hence. Hence the generation of noise may result.